

**DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA**

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**Business & Professions Code, Article 2.6. Continuing Education****§ 1645. Condition for license renewal; assurances; suspension.**

(a) Effective with the 1974 license renewal period, if the board determines that the public health and safety would be served by requiring all holders of licenses under this chapter to continue their education after receiving a license, it may require, as a condition to the renewal thereof, that they submit assurances satisfactory to the board that they will, during the succeeding two-year period, inform themselves of the developments in the practice of dentistry occurring since the original issuance of their licenses by pursuing one or more courses of study satisfactory to the board or by other means deemed equivalent by the board. The board shall adopt regulations providing for the suspension of the licenses at the end of the two-year period until compliance with the assurances provided for in this section is accomplished.

(b) The board may also, as a condition of license renewal, require licentiates to successfully complete a portion of the required continuing education hours in specific areas adopted in regulations by the board. The board may prescribe this mandatory coursework within the general areas of patient care, health and safety, and law and ethics. The mandatory coursework prescribed by the board shall not exceed fifteen hours per renewal period for dentists, and seven and one-half hours per renewal period for dental auxiliaries. Any mandatory coursework required by the board shall be credited toward the continuing education requirements established by the board pursuant to subdivision (a).

(Amended by Stats. 1994, Chpt. 400, Sec. 1)

**California Code of Regulations Article 4. Continuing Education****§ 1017. Units Required for Renewal of License.**

(a) Effective with the 2004-2005 renewal cycle and every renewal cycle thereafter, as a condition of renewal, licensees will be required to complete continuing education units in each of the following subjects: (1) infection control and (2) California law. Dentists will be required to complete two units of continuing education in infection control and two units in California law. Dental auxiliaries will be required to complete two units in infection control and two units in California law. The mandatory units will count toward the total units required to renew a license, however, failure to complete the mandatory courses will result in non-renewal of a license. The course in infection control shall be consistent with the board regulations on infection control. The course in California law shall include, but not be limited to, instruction on: the scope of practice, requirement for renewal of a license, use of auxiliaries in a dental practice, laws governing the prescribing of drugs, and acts in violation of the Dental Practice Act.

(b) Every licentiate shall accumulate the continuing education units equal to the number of units indicated below during the biennial license renewal period and shall assure the board that he/she will accumulate such units during the succeeding two year renewal period; except that those new licentiates who have been issued a license to practice for a period less than 2 years shall commence accumulating continuing education credits with the next biennial renewal period occurring after the issuance of a license to practice. As part of the continuing education requirements, each licentiate shall complete, at least once every two years, a course in basic life support approved by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association. Each licentiate who holds a general anesthesia permit shall take and complete, at least once every two years, either (1) an advanced cardiac life support course which is approved by the American Heart Association and which includes an examination on the materials presented in the course or (2) any other advanced cardiac life support course which is identical in all respects, except for the omission of materials that relate solely to hospital emergencies or neonatology, to the course published by the American Heart Association in April 1983, which is incorporated by reference. Each licentiate who holds a conscious sedation permit shall take and complete at least once every two years at least 15 total units of courses related to the administration of conscious sedation and to medical emergencies. Refusal to execute the required assurance shall result in non-renewal of the license.

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| (1) Dentists:   | 50 units. |
| (2) Registered dental hygienists:                         | 25 units. |
| (3) Registered dental assistants:                         | 25 units. |
| (4) Registered dental hygienists in extended functions:   | 25 units. |
| (5) Registered dental assistants in extended functions:   | 25 units. |
| (6) Registered dental hygienists in alternative practice: | 35 units. |

(c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this code, tape recorded courses and correspondence courses approved by the board shall be accepted for credit up to, but not exceeding, half of the total required credit. Interactive instruction courses via computers, telephone conferencing, video conferencing, or other electronic mediums approved by the board shall be accepted for full credit.

(d) The license of any person who fails to accumulate the continuing education units set forth in (a) and (b), or to assure the board that he/she will accumulate such units, shall not be renewed until such time as the licensee complies with those requirements.

(e) A licensee who has not practiced in California for more than one year because the licensee is disabled need not comply with the continuing education requirements of this article during the renewal period within which such disability falls. Such licensee shall certify that he/she is eligible for waiver of the continuing education requirements. A licensee who ceases to be eligible for such waiver shall comply with the continuing education requirements for subsequent renewal periods.

(f) A licensee who applies for license renewal shall, on a form provided by the board, provide a summary of continuing education units earned during the license renewal period. The licensee shall retain for a period of four years the certifications issued to him/her at the time he/she attended the course and shall forward such certifications to the board only upon request by the board. A licensee who fails to retain a certification shall contact the provider and obtain a duplicate certification. Providers may issue duplicate certifications only to licensees whose names appear on the provider's roster of course attendees. The certification shall be clearly marked "duplicate" and shall contain the licensee's name, as well as the provider's name, course registration number, dates attended, and units earned. Any licensee who furnishes false or misleading information to the board regarding his continuing education units shall be subject to disciplinary action. The board will audit such licensee records as it deems necessary to assure that the continuing education requirements are met.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 1614 and 1645, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 1645, 1646.5 and 1647.5, Business and Professions Code.

1. *Amendment of subsection (a) filed 8-23-85; effective thirtieth day thereafter.*
2. *Amendment of subsection (a) filed 1-26-86; effective thirtieth day thereafter.*
3. *Amendment filed 4-4-88; operative 4-4-88.*
4. *Amendment of subsection (a) filed 6-8-88; operative 7-8-88.*
5. *Amendment filed 4-1-91; operative 5-1-91.*
6. *New subsection (a), subsection relettering and amendment of newly designated subsection (b) and (d) filed 7-8-96; operative 8-7-96.*
7. *Amendment of subsection (c) filed 2-2-99, operative 3-4-99.*
8. *Amendment of subsection (b) (1), new subsection (b) (4) – (6) and amendment of Note filed 7-21-99; operative 8-2-99.*